GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:266
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2004
DECLINING OF KHARIF PRODUCTION
Jagannath Dr. M.;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under Kharif crop has recorded a decline due to poor monsoon;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the shortfall in Kharif production, crop-wise;

(c) whether the Government has fixed a production target of 135 million tonnes of foodgrains for the Rabi crop;

(d) if so, the extent of increase as compared to the previous year;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide incentives to farmers in order to meet the Rabi target;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the other steps being taken to increase production to meet the target?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 266 DUE FOR REPLY ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2004.

(a)&(b): According to the first advance estimates for 2004-05, the total area under Kharif crops, namely, foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton, jute and mesta was 97 million hectares compared to 102 million hectares during Kharif season of 2003-04. The decline in area under kharif crops this year has been caused by the deficiency in rainfall, particularly in the month of July, from the South-West monsoon. As a result, production of Kharif foodgrains and other commercial crops, except cotton, has also declined in 2004-05. Crop-wise figures are given in the Annexure.

(c)&(d): The Government has set a target of 225.10 million tonnes of foodgrains for the year 2004-05, which consists of 113.80 million tonnes of kharif foodgrains and 111.30 million tonnes of rabi foodgrains. The kharif and rabi targets of foodgrains production for 2004-05 are higher by 1.90% and 2.75% respectively over the corresponding targets of the previous year.

(e)&(f): An Incentive Scheme to give reward to states showing best performance in Rabi production in this season has been prepared by the Government. Under this scheme, the States are divided into 5 groups, and the best performing state in each of the five groups would be rewarded with an amount of Rs. 1 crore to encourage various offices and functionaries in achieving better Rabi production.

(g): The other steps aimed at boosting production are the following:-

- Organizing Rabi Campaign, 2004-05
- A toll free calling facility on telephone no. 1551 has been created all over the country
- Scheme for Mass Media Support for Agriculture Extension
- Organization of Exhibitions and Krishi Melas
- Special Schemes to motivate the women farmers in adopting latest technology and forming Self-Help groups to avail micro-credit facility etc. This is expected to further boost Rabi production in the country.

Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) AND (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 266 ON

DECLINING OF KHARIF PRODUCTION DUE FOR REPLY ON 20.12.2004.

(Area In Million Hectares) (Production : In Million Tonnes)

Crops	Area		Production	
	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04$	2004-05 $$
1. Rice	37.89	34.61	73.92	71.10
2. Jowar	4.46	3.90	5.01	3.58
3. Bajra	10.39	8.71	11.79	5.76
4. Maize	6.61	6.78	12.44	12.07
5. Ragi	1.65	1.60	2.01	2.52
6. Small Millets	1.14	0.91	0.55	0.57
7 Coarse Cereals (2+3+4+5+6)	24.26	21.90	31.80	24.50
8. Tur	3.53	3.17	2.43	2.32
9. Other Kharif Pulses	8.29	6.66	3.90	2.37
10. Total Kharif Foodgrains (1+7+8+9)	73.96	66.33	112.05	100.29
11. Groundnut	5.22	5.79	7.12	6.30
12. Castorseed	0.73	0.75	0.80	0.66
13. Sesamum	1.86	1.67	0.82	0.50
14. Nigerseed	0.44	0.36	0.11	0.09
15. Sunflower	0.60	0.68	0.31	0.35
16. Soyabean	6.50	7.82	7.85	7.56
17. Kharif Oilseeds (11+12+13+14+15+16)	15.35	17.07	17.01	15.45
Cotton#	7.64	8.61	13.79	13.85
Sugarcane	4.00	3.91	236.18	235.45
Jute & Mesta##	1.05	0.97	11.20	10.76

= Million Bales of 170 kgs. each.
= Million Bales of 180 kgs. each.
$ = Fourth Advance Estimates for 2003-04
$$ = First Advance Estimates for 2004-05.